Committee for prediction of quake

114. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem published in the "Hindu" dated 28.1.2001 regarding "Another quake in the offing";

(b) if so, whether Government have set up a Committee of the experts to find out the predictions of such quakes;

(c) whether in view of the newspapers' reports the Central Government have suggested the State Governments to take special steps to minimise destruction due to earth-quakes; and

(d) if so, the major areas in the country where earthquakes are expected in just near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) No scientific method is available at present anywhere in the world to predict an earthquake with reasonable accuracy of location, time and magnitude.

A large part of land area of the country is liable to various ranges of probable seismic activities. As prediction of earthquake is not possible, there is need to take preparatory measures like earthquake resistant constructions, adoption of Building Codes/ Guidelines/Standards, retrofitting, public education and community awareness. State Governments have been requested by the concerned agencies for taking necessary preparatory measures in the earthquake vulnerable areas. Vulnerability Atlas for the country as well as State-wise has also been brought out with regard to earthquake disaster. Delhi comes under the Zone-IV, which is considered as high damage risk zone. State-wise Seismic Zonation details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Statewise Seismic Zonation

States & U.Ts.	Intensity MSK	Seismic Zone
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Arunachal Pradesh	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Assam	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Bihar	MSK V to IX or more	Zone V
Gujarat	MSK VI to IX or more	Zone II, III & V
Himachal Pradesh	MSK VIII to IX or more	Zone IV & V
Jammu & Kashmir (JK)	MSK VIII to IX or more	Zone IV & V
Manipur	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Meghalaya	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Mizoram	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Nagaland	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Tripura	MSK IX or more	Zone V
Uttar Pradesh	MSK V to IX or more	Zone II, III, IV & V
West Bengal	MSK VI to IX or more	Zone II, III, IV & V
Chandigarh	MSK VIII	Zone IV
Delhi	MSK VIII	Zone IV
Haryana	MSK VI to VIII	Zone II, III & IV
Maharashtra	MSK V to VIII	Zone II, III & IV

States & U.Ts.	Intensity MSK	Seismic Zone
Punjab	MSK VI to VIII	Zone II, III & IV
Rajasthan	MSK V to VIII	Zone II, III & IV
Sikkim	MSK VIII	Zone IV
Andhra Pradesh	MSK V to VII	Zone II & III
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	MSK VII	Zone III
Daman & Diu	MSK VII	Zone III
Goa	MSK VI to VII	Zone II & III
Karnataka	MSK V to VII	Zone II & III
Kerala	MSK VI to VII	Zone II & III
Lakshadweep	MSK VII	Zone III
Madhya Pradesh	MSK V to VII	Zone II & III
Orissa	MSK V to VII	Zone II & III
Pondicherry	MSK VI to VII	Zone II & III
Tamil Nadu	MSK V to VII	Zone II & III

The Maximum Intensity of Modified Mercalli Scale considered for the Five Zones are:—

MSK IX or more in Zone V
MSK VIII in Zone IV
MSK VII in Zone III
MKI VI in Zone II.

In the revision of the seismic zones in year 2000, the seismic Zone I has been merged in Zone II by BIS seismic Zoning Committee, hence there are now four zones only number II, III, IV & V.